

## APD NEWS

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## CADETS TEACH CADETS ABOUT AUSTIN'S DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

The 114<sup>th</sup> Austin Police Department Cadet Class will teach fellow class members on Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup> about the variety of cultures living in Austin.

The presentations are the findings from the Cadet Community Immersion program that is designed to introduce and educate the cadets about the diverse community they will protect and serve following graduation on June 20<sup>th</sup> 2008. The presentations will be from 4:30 pm to 9:30 pm. at the J.J. "Jake" Pickle Research Center at 10100 Burnet Road in the UT Commons Conference Center.

The cadets were divided into five groups in order to learn about the following cultures: Asian, African American, Mexican National, the Homeless and Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender (GLBT). Thirty-eight cadets took part in the research project that included conducting one-on-one interviews with individuals from each of the cultures.

The 109<sup>th</sup> Cadet Class was the first class to take part in the immersion program. The unique program was developed by staff at the Academy and is an important and vital element in educating cadets about different cultures in Austin. The Immersion Projects purpose is to "encourage cadets to identify the diverse groups within the community, learn about other cultures as they exist in Austin, explore how other groups view police, and share what they've learned with their peers."

**Media Advisory:** Cadets will be available for interviews on Thursday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. at the J.J. "Jake" Pickle Research Center at 10100 Burnet Road in the UT Commons Conference Center.